

Message Text

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67

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /028 W

----- 115052

R 242139Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8907

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 0732

PASS AGRICULTURE/FAS MEEKER AND FRASER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, BGEN, CA

SUBJ: QUEBEC'S REVISED LABELING REGULATIONS

REF: MONTREAL 185

1. REVIEW OF ENGLISH VERSION OF LABELING REGULATIONS
REVEALS:

A. CLAUSE 10D REMAINS ESSENTIALLY SAME AS ORIGINAL
8C AND EXEMPTS THE REQUIRED USE OF FRENCH IN LABELS
AND DIRECTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS SHIPPED IN LARGE
QUANTITIES AND INTENDED TO BE INCORPORATED IN A
FINISHED PRODUCT.

B. CLAUSE 10E EXEMPTS SHIPMENTS OF FRESH FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES SHIPPED IN LARGE QUANTITIES.

2. COMMENT:

A. EMBASSY BELIEVES CLAUSE 10D IS INEQUITABLE IN
THAT IT EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS WHICH MIGHT
OTHERWISE QUALIFY. EXTAFF'S DECEMBER 3, 1975 LETTER
TO ECON COUNSELOR REPORTING UNOFFICIAL INFORMATION
RECEIVED FROM PROVINCE OF QUEBEC STATED THAT QUEBEC

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AGREED THAT CLAUSE 8C WAS AMBIGUOUS AND IT WOULD BE

CLARIFIED. LETTER ALSO STATED THAT TOBACCO AND RAW
COTTON IMPORTS WOULD BE EXEMPT FROM FRENCH LABELING.
HOWEVER, REVISED REGULATIONS ARE ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED.

B. EXEMPTION FOR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IS
ENCOURAGING BUT DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH. MEAT, EGGS
AND SEVERAL OTHER PERISHABLE PRODUCTS ARE NOT EXEMPTED.

C. EMBASSY INTENDS EXPRESS CONCERN THRU EXTAFK REGARDING
ABOVE POINTS AND REQUEST FURTHER RECONSIDERATION.
ENDERS

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